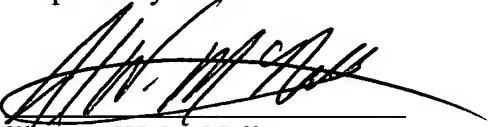


REMARKS

Before examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please enter the present Preliminary Amendment. By the present amendment, claims 1-4 have been canceled without prejudice. The remaining claims 5-18 are those claims withdrawn from the parent application, Serial No. 09/838,355, in view of a restriction requirement. Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted

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